

TUESDAY EDITION

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The Flat Hat

The Student Newspaper of the College of William and Mary since 1911

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2007

FLATHATNEWS.COM

Hagel hopes for future of nation, education at 314th Charter Day



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.) delivered an address at the 314th annual Charter Day ceremony, where he was given an honorary doctorate, in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall Saturday. In his speech, Hagel praised the role of public education and encouraged all Americans to approach today's issues with a more international perspective.

Hagel tells audience America must build “international relationship” in order to face complex future challenges

BY MORGAN FIGA
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Nebraska Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.) praised William and Mary for its dedication to public education and spoke about the challenges of future American generations.

“Public education has been a cornerstone of success in America,” he told the audience at the Charter Day celebration last Saturday. “It would not be sensational

hyperbole to suggest that started here.” In addition to using his speech to reflect on the College’s longstanding academic, Hagel talked about the 400 anniversary at Jamestown. “Through it all, what was begun at Jamestown allowed us to develop into the greatest democracy the world has ever known,” he said. “It has been our cultural character that has seen us through.” Hagel said that the challenges that future Americans will face are complex and

can no longer be separated into domestic and foreign policy. He cautioned the audience not to think of public policy as a “vacuum,” but rather a series of interconnected issues. “America must build and sustain a new international relationship with a new international generation,” he added. He said that he placed faith in the new generation as a force for change. “If we fail, our children and grandchildren will be left with a much more dangerous world.” Hagel told the students in the audience that they were part of the next generation and they should be prepared to face new

and different challenges in the coming future. “There is much uncertainty ahead, but I know that William and Mary has prepared you well,” he said. He closed the speech by telling the audience that he believed America could meet the challenges ahead. “We find ways in American to divide ourselves,” he said. “But [there is] a soaring spirit of humanity and decency that American’s share. We can be divided in many ways but in the end we are all Americans...America will meet the

See **HAGEL HOPES** page 4

WREN CROSS CONTROVERSY

Cross leads few to rethink donations

22 alumni signed pledge to withhold gifts from College until Wren cross returned

BY AUSTIN WRIGHT
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

Margee Pierce, '84, said the last thing she wants is to hurt the College. But when a friend sent her an e-mail Dec. 22 about the new Wren cross policy, she decided to withhold donations.

“No cross, no cash,” she said. That’s the motto of an online listing of alumni connected with SavetheWrenCross.org who made the same decision as Pierce. Currently 22 have signed, including four members of the Fourth Century Club, a group of alumni who contribute \$1,000 or more annually.

“I know for a fact that a significant number of donors have informed the College that they are withholding donations due to President [Gene] Nichol’s decision,” Pierce wrote in a Jan. 31 e-mail to The Flat Hat. “Many alumni give annually and once the decision to stop donating is made, it may be difficult to recapture those donors. A relatively predictable income stream to the College is being interrupted.”

Vice President for Development Sean Pieri disagrees, saying that the number of alumni listed as withholding donations is insignificant compared to the 58,303 people who contributed to the Campaign for William and Mary, of which about 70 percent were alumni.

Nichol announced to the Board of Visitors Feb. 9 that the record \$26 million raised in the fourth quarter of 2006 put the campaign above its \$500 million goal six months ahead of schedule. Pieri said that between July 1, 2006, and Dec. 31, 2006, 14,917 people donated to the campaign, compared to 14,859 during the same period in 2005.

He added that as a result of the controversy some people have withheld donations while others decided to start donating.

“Donations are up; the number of donors is up,” Pieri said. “Everything is trending positively.”

Pieri, though, felt that the fourth quarter numbers proved little.

“I would guess most of the final quarter donors were unaware of the policy change or the controversy surrounding it,” she said. “However, the same day I received my friend’s e-mail informing me [of the decision] ... I received an e-mail from William and Mary asking me to donate money and ‘Remember the Magic...’ To many alumni, the cross is part of the magic.”

See **CROSS ALUMNI** page 4

Faculty largely happy at College, new survey says

While survey shows modest rise in satisfaction, low salaries leave 21 percent of faculty searching for jobs elsewhere

BY ANGELA COTA
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The recently released faculty survey reported that 81 percent of faculty members who answered the survey say they are “very satisfied” or “moderately satisfied” with their positions at the College.

This 2006 survey is the sixth faculty survey at the College. Previous surveys were conducted in 2003, 1999, 1996,

1993 and 1991. The 81 percent satisfaction rating was included in a preview of the results at the Board of Visitors meeting last week. This particular figure was from a question on the survey that read, “On the whole, how satisfied are you with your position at the College?” “This is an increase over the last survey (Faculty Survey 2003 was 78 percent), but not as high as in 1999 (86 percent),” Kulick said.

Unsatisfied faculty cited salaries as the main problem. Twenty-one percent said they were looking for jobs elsewhere as of October 2006. Not all of those on the job market will necessarily leave the College, but they are looking at other options, Kulick noted. The response rate for the survey was 72.7 percent, the highest ever. The last survey in 2003 had a response rate of 62 percent, which was considered outstanding at the time, according to President of the Faculty Assembly Katherine Kulick. “This [72.7 percent] is a very strong response rate by any measure, consider-

ing that nearly three-fourths of all full-time tenured and tenure-eligible faculty took part in the survey,” Kulick said. From a list of 16 possibilities on the survey, faculty were to choose their top priorities for the future. The overall top priorities were increased funding for salaries, student financial aid and faculty research. “The full results of the Faculty Survey 2006 are still being analyzed; there were many more questions,” Kulick said. As soon as it is complete, a final faculty survey will be posted on the Faculty Assembly website.

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Sports

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Variety

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Sports Feature

Tribe Football Coach Jimmye Laycock talks about new recruits. Page 8.

NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

In the Feb. 9 issue the article “Bloc party returns” was incorrectly attributed to Chas Tyson. It was written by Chris Manitiuis.
In the same issue, the Student Assembly article reported that Senators Andrew Blasi and Scott Morris stood up to leave the meeting together. Morris, however, left the meeting before Blasi. He was not stopped at the door and did not witness or participate in the dispute that occurred.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Tuesday



High 41°
Low 35°

Wednesday



High 50°
Low 24°

Thursday



High 38°
Low 18°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

No cross, no cash.

- Margee Pierce, ‘84 on the Wren Cross Controversy.

See NEWS page 1

The city was being non-responsive to the wants, wishes and desires of the students.

- Glenn Gormley, ‘84, the owner of The Green Leaf.

See VARIETY page 6

News in Brief

New School of Education to replace Sentara Hospital

According to The Daily Press, the College plans to build a new School of Education on the old Sentara hospital location. The school, which is slated to open in the spring of 2010, is estimated to be a 109,000 square-foot building with about 420 parking spaces.

The Sentara property, bought for \$8.7 million, has 12 acres that could be used for development. VP for Administration Anna Martin said that there is more room for future buildings on the property, the Daily Press reported.

The BOV heard updates on other construction projects and discussed possible plans to build an arts complex within the next six years that would house theater, music, speech, dance and the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

Survey shows starting salaries are up for most majors

According to a survey released last week by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, employers expect to hire 17.4 percent more college graduates than they did last year. Those majoring in marketing and business administration had the highest increases in average starting salary from last year. Business administration majors averaged a 9.2 percent gain. Others that gained were computer science, accounting and engineering.

But there were decreases in liberal arts majors (which include psychology, political science, history and English). They were down 1.1 percent.

— by Morgan Figa

By the Numbers

21 percent

The proportion of professors at the College who are currently looking for another job, based on a new faculty survey. Still, 81 percent said they were either “very satisfied” or “moderately satisfied” with their job at the College.

22

The number of donors who have specifically stated that they will no longer donate to the College due to the removal of the Wren Cross.

16 million

The number of accounts on facebook.com, which is now open to anyone. MySpace.com claims it has 145 million accounts.

1,281 percent

The annual inflation rate in Zimbabwe, which has been over 1,000 percent since last April. The government has responded by declaring inflation illegal and threatening to arrest and punish anyone who increases wages or prices.

\$30,502

The average starting salary of liberal arts majors nationwide. Business majors averaged \$43,523 and chemical engineering majors got \$60,054.

— compiled by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO • THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEYOND THE BURG

Rural schools attempt urbanization

By ELIZA MURPHY
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

According to the Feb. 7 New York Times, numerous rural colleges plan to urbanize their campuses for a more modern feel that many current students are seeking. Many campuses that had previously advertised a bucolic environment to appeal to prospective students have found that students today are looking for more urban surroundings.

The majority of the universities with urbanization plans have large tracts of unused land that they feel can be successfully developed not only to benefit the social lives of students, but also to help build their endowments.

These universities include the University of Connecticut, the University of Notre Dame, Furman University, Hampshire College and Hendrix College.

Hendrix is about to begin construction on a large village that has stores, restaurants and offices on 130 acres of land across the street from the campus. A student fitness center is also under construction.

The land was previously open woods and fields, but administrators have determined that students at the college would rather have a

wider variety of social activities than a scenic view.

“I think students crave the kind of vitality you have in an urban space,” J. Timothy Cloyd, Hendrix president, told the Times.

These universities hope that by developing a downtown area, the rural colleges will appeal to more students. However, they have also realized that in addition to benefiting the social lives of students, these new developments can appeal to an older crowd. Additions such as the one at Hendrix include single-family houses, town houses, apartments and condominiums.

“It’s part of a pattern of colleges and universities realizing that they have elements that are appealing to a population far broader than 18- to 25-year-olds. It’s often said of a college education, ‘It’s a shame it’s wasted on the young,’” Ralph J. Hexter, president of Hampshire College, said.

The recent opening of the New Town development in Williamsburg seems to be a similar attempt at urbanization to improve the variety of social activities for students at the College. New Town’s attractions include stores, restaurants and a movie theater.

The downsides of New Town

are that it is far away from the campus and students have to drive to get there.

“The culture of William and Mary is extremely pedestrian-oriented,” Student Assembly Sen. Matt Beato, a sophomore, said. “You can see this by how often students go to Wawa to get something to eat as opposed to, say, Food Lion ... As a result, entertainment needs to be in the areas that are within walking distance of the campus.”

Beato says that the best option for improving social activities on campus is by developing the areas on Richmond Road around the delis and on Jamestown Road near the Campus Center by putting in more student-friendly businesses.

However, the general consensus among students at the College is that, despite the drive, New Town does provide more of a variety of social activities.

“I think that New Town has had a very positive effect on students at [the College]. A movie theater is much closer, there are more restaurants, stores and social outlets for students to go to, and it connects the campus to something beyond Duke of Gloucester street,” Jess Vance, senior class president, said.

This week in Flat Hat history

1931

The Tri Delta house on Richmond Road was destroyed by a fire caused by a short-circuit in electrical wiring. No students were harmed in the fire, nor did it spread or cause major damage to any surrounding buildings. Students managed to take some property from their rooms, and part of the furniture in the dining room as well as a new living room suite survived the fire.

1977

Ken Smith, then the Associate Dean of Student Activities and Organizations, put the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) fraternity in a “deep freeze.” SAE was banned from conducting activities as a fraternity for the following school year, and Dean Smith told the chapter president that the fraternity would remain frozen until its “negative reputation” was improved.

1981

The College announced plans to build an art museum, now known as the Muscarelle, to house the College’s art collection. The art collection was worth three million dollars. The project was announced after a \$600,000 pledge was secured from Joseph L. Muscarelle, class of 1927, and his wife Margaret.

2002

Phi Beta Kappa Hall and Washington Hall both underwent asbestos removal.

The removal was part of a campus-wide effort to remove or seal off asbestos all over campus, most of which was found in buildings built prior to 1970. During the fiscal year, the college spent more than \$250,000 to remove asbestos from campus.

— compiled by Morgan Figa

STREET BEAT

What can Dining Services do to improve?



Better ... food.

Max Hlavin, sophomore



Half the time the food is stale. It never varies. Fix the ice cream machine. More tomato soup.

Laura Rodriguez, sophomore



They should have pineapple everyday, all of the time.

Alison Ballard, freshman



The UC needs to cook its pizza more.

Matt Chandler, freshman

— photos and interviews by Julia Schaumburg

POLICE BEAT

Feb. 7 to Feb. 11



Wednesday, Feb. 7—A staff member reported larceny at Jones Hall. She reported the theft of her credit card and the subsequent unauthorized purchase of \$1,800. 1

Friday, Feb. 9—A student at Chandler Hall reported that her welcome mat had been stolen from the hallway outside of her door. The approximate value was \$20. 2

—A student reported the theft of a ring from the Rec Center. The estimated value was \$300. 3

Saturday, Feb. 10—A student at the Graduate Student Complex complained of loud noises and singing. An officer did an area check, but no further action was taken. 4

—A 21-year-old student was arrested in the fraternity parking lot for being drunk in public. 5

—A student at Unit D reported vandalism, saying that a brick was thrown at the rear glass door in the unit, breaking the glass. The damages were estimated at \$300. 5

—A student reported vandalism at the fraternity parking lot. He said that someone had broken a window on his car. Damage was estimated at \$120. 5

Sunday, Feb. 11—An officer reported finding a sign missing from the parking garage on Ukrop Way. The estimated value of the sign was \$3,550. 6

—compiled by Morgan Figa

Following national trends, Williamsburg unemployment falls

Study group says that seasonal employment helped improve rate

By CAROLYN DiPROSPERO
THE FLAT HAT

The city of Williamsburg’s unemployment rate dropped by almost 2 percent over the last six months of 2006, according to statistics released by the Virginia Employment Commission. In December 2006, the Williamsburg unemployment rate was about 5.1 percent, a state-wide rate of 2.7 percent and 4.3 percent nationally.

The overall statistics, however, can be misleading. According to Art Batten, office manager of the Williamsburg Area Employment Commission, because of the relatively small workforce within Williamsburg City, the Employment Commission generally looks at James City County as a whole.

“Overall, our area, [James City County], remains right at the same unemployment level as Virginia and well below the national rate. Williamsburg is a pretty good place to be right now,” Batten said.

He explained that the Williamsburg area’s employment

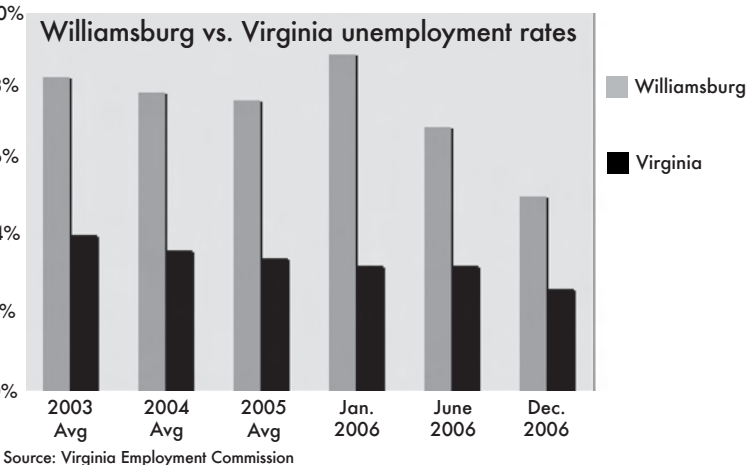
rate is largely driven by student and tourist impact.

“Over the past three years there has been a trend [in unemployment rates] that has been pretty regular. [The unemployment rate] will spike in January when seasonal employment ends. It drifts down in May when people get jobs at Busch Gardens and Water Country, then it will spike in June and drift back down after August when the students return,” Batten said.

The College is the city’s top employer, followed by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and the Foundation-owned Colonial Williamsburg Hotel. Sentara Health care and Aramark Campus, in charge of food supply and distribution for the College, round out the top five.

As a major employment force within the community, the College, with its 7,544 students and 763 faculty members, also contributes to the local economy through spending. According to a study by the Wessex Group posted on the Office of Economic Development’s website, the College and its partner, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, contributed \$301 million

See **UNEMPLOYMENT** page 4



Leaders hold State of Black Union

Jamestown 2007 event focused on U.S.’s multi-cultural origins

By RACHEL SAPIN
THE FLAT HAT

A discussion titled “Jamestown — 400 years in Retrospect: A Cross Cultural Look at the First Settlement” kicked off the 2007 “State of the Black Union” series held at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall Friday afternoon.

Headed by a panel of historians and professors, including Vice President for the Historic Area Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Rex Ellis, the discussion focused on American Indians, Europeans and Africans of early America.

Other participants included notable Princeton University religion and African American Studies Professor Cornel West.

The panel discussed the mul-

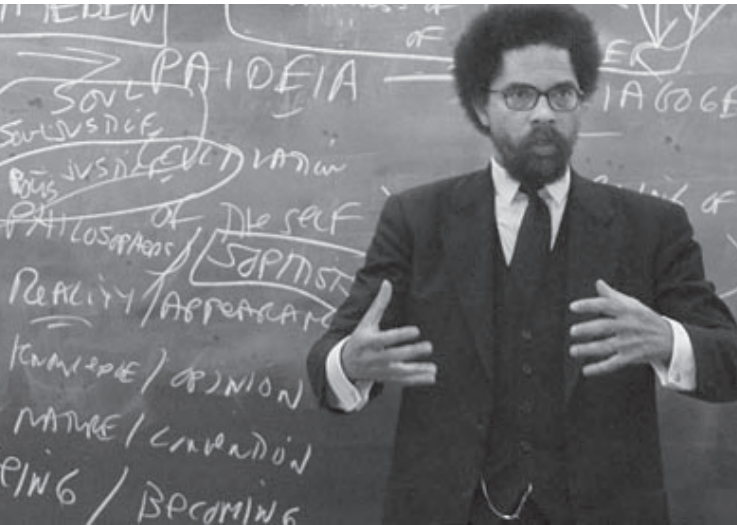
tipl cultural perspectives that make up Jamestown’s colonial history.

“We don’t do a service, as historians to the American people, by telling only one little strand of the story,” said Darlen Clark Hine, a professor of history and black studies at Northwestern University and a member of the panel.

Subjects approached by the panel were wide-ranging and included slavery, interactions between Virginia’s Indians and English settlers and the role of greed in American history, The Daily Press reported.

The discussion, though a prequel to other events, remained a highlight of the series. “This conversation really sets the stage for the conversation we want to have tomorrow,” said Tavis Smiley, host of the “Black State of the Union” conference.

History professor and panelist Cassandra Newby-Alexander



COURTESY PHOTO • PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Cornel West, a professor of religion and African American studies at Princeton, was a panelist at the State of the Black Union conference.

also expressed optimism in how the discussion could set the stage for a deeper understanding of American history.

“I’m hopeful that discussion will begin the process — after 400 years — [of looking] at the realities of our past, not what we

want to see, but what truly existed,” Newby-Alexander said.

After hosting the panel at the College, Smiley traveled to Hampton University for the “State of the Black Union’s” day-long symposium recorded live on C-Span.

Citing accuracy concerns, Middlebury history department bans Wikipedia

Despite concerns over using the popular encyclopedia for research purposes, the College has no plans to restrict its use

By ALINA TODOR
THE FLAT HAT

After increased frustration caused by their students citing and using Wikipedia on academic assignments, Middlebury College’s history department passed a unanimous ban on using the online encyclopedia at the end of January, the Daily Pennsylvanian reported Jan. 26.

Middlebury College, a small liberal arts college in rural Vermont, is the first college to take a stand against Wikipedia, an online encyclopedia that can be edited by anyone.

For history professors at Middlebury, this ban includes not only citing Wikipedia as a source in papers or assignments, but also

reading articles on the online encyclopedia, explains Bill Belew, in an online article for “The Biz of Knowledge.”

Some professors view the ban as too extreme, holding that students shouldn’t be prohibited from using any resources, as long as they bear the responsibility of checking the accuracy of their facts.

The chair of the history department at William and Mary, Professor James Whittenburg, agrees that banning Wikipedia “seems extreme.”

“My feeling is that one can seldom completely trust information on the web,” Whittenburg said. “It makes a good first stop, and there are some excellent and reliable web sources, but without some means of judging

the input — some sort of peer review — information in online databases and encyclopedias must remain suspect until verified.”

Wikipedia spokesman Mathias Schindler was reported to have suggested that students were recommended to check facts found on Wikipedia “against other sources.”

“It’s usually not advisable, particularly at the university level, to cite an encyclopedia” Schindler added in a Jan. 26 Daily Pennsylvanian article.

At the College, citing Wikipedia is often discouraged in classes on the grounds that more in-depth sources are available for student use.

Professor Tom Linneman, chair of the sociology department at the College, had reservations about Middlebury’s decision.

“Personally, I’d be highly suspicious of

See **WIKIPEDIA** page 4

Your campus newspaper is printing twice weekly

The Flat Hat will be available every Tuesday and Friday at 5 p.m. in the following locations



- 1 Rec Center
- 2 Caf
- 3 Swem Cafe
- 4 Morton
- 5 Campus Center
Flat Hat Office
- 6 Law School Library
- 7 UC entrance
Lodge One
UC Lounge by mailboxes
- 8 Blow Hall
Registrar's office
- 9 Alumni House
- 10 Aromas
- 11 Bookstore
- 12 Regional Library

Health costs rising, students come to aid of local immigrants

Deficit reduction bill makes it more difficult for legal and illegal immigrants to receive health care

By JAMES DAMON
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

A federal deficit reduction bill has made it harder for immigrants — legal and illegal — to gain access to health care. Students from the College have recently taken action to assist Williamsburg, a city that has only recently received a large influx of immigrants, to cope with the legislation.

The students, sophomores Katie Ball and Allison Corbett, heard about the measure when it was passed last year.

As a result of the change, low income citizens are required to provide two forms of identification in order to receive the benefits of Medicaid.

“It is not in the best interest of our community to not allow these people access to health care,” Ball said. “Services in Williamsburg are not growing to meet the need. This requires an awareness of the issue from a health aspect.”

Ball, a Sharpe community scholar, emphasized the negative externalities associated with failing to subsidize the health care of these people. Externalities, an economics concept, result from a mismanagement of resources, and lead to negative spillover in society. As Ball explained it, people

in the community are at greater risk of contracting an illness from someone unable to receive preventative health care.

“It’s just something that affects everyone, regardless of your opinions about immigration,” Ball said. “If you have an opinion about illegal immigration, you should attack it in a political realm. It’s a separate issue.”

Ball and Corbett, along with students Danielle Neale and Kim Parker, have started a letter-writing campaign, soliciting local businesses for money to create a fund to “offset recent changes in Medicaid.” Some local businesses contacted include the Williamsburg Homebuilders association and the Annheiseur-Busch Company.

As a Sharpe Community Scholar, Ball spent her freshman year working with the Virginia Department of Public Health to create culturally appropriate public health services in Williamsburg.

Also a Sharpe Community Scholar, Corbett spent last year teaching English as a second language. She also worked as an interpreter for a medical mission trip to the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

“Everybody does deserve the right to education and health care

regardless of legal status,” Corbett said.

Corbett could not confirm any numbers more recent than 2000 on Hispanics of either legal or illegal status, but did say that an influx of immigrants in Williamsburg is a relatively “new phenomena.” The Hispanic population in Virginia doubled between 1990 and 2000, from 2.6 percent to 4.7 percent.

The Olde Towne Medical Center, located in James City County, provides medical care to uninsured, Medicare or Medicaid residents. However, without Medicaid coverage, some residents cannot even afford the relatively low-cost treatments available at the Medical Center. This becomes particularly problematic when residents must choose between preventative care and basic necessities.

“While Congress is dealing with whatever they’re planning to do with immigrants or decreasing illegal immigrant flow to the United States they should still be aware of the fact that we do have a strong presence of immigrants both here legally and illegally,” Corbett said. “And they are a real part of the economy and are a real part of the community and are going to affect us all.”

In addition to their letter-writing campaign, Corbett and Ball are planning a campus thrift sale to support the fund. They are currently seeking donations.

Law school alum suing College to return cross to Wren permanently

Alum also wants Wren Chapel to maintain same hours as library

By WILLIAM ANGLEY
THE FLAT HAT

A federal lawsuit has been filed against College President Gene Nichol and the Board of Visitors that seeks the permanent display of the cross in the Wren Chapel and extended hours of operation for the Chapel, including all times when Swem Library is open and all day Sunday.

According to the Feb. 10 online edition of The Virginian-Pilot, George Leach, J.D. ’75, filed

FRONT PAGE
After a record-breaking \$26 million fundraising quarter and the completion of the College’s \$500 million Campaign for W&M, 22 alumni have told the College they will not donate money to the College unless the Wren Cross is displayed full time. See page 1.

the complaint in the Norfolk office of the U.S. District court. The lawsuit, which cites the Civil Rights Act, is the most recent action in the nationally escalat-

ing Wren Cross controversy. The Pilot reported that the lawsuit says that the new policy of displaying the cross every Sunday and by request violates the freedoms of religion and speech. He also asserts that Nichol was influenced by the American Civil Liberties Union in making his decision. “The building is now sterile and dead,” he wrote, referring to Nichol’s actions as “anti-Christian bigotry.”

A search of the Federal courts database indicated that summons had been issued to Nichol and the BOV this Monday. As of press time, The Flat Hat had not obtained a copy of the complaint.

Middlebury history department bans Wikipedia from research

WIKIPEDIA *from page 3*

any attempt to ban Wikipedia. I believe one of our goals as a community is to learn how to become more critical consumers of information, and one does not accomplish this by banning access to, or

the use of, this information,” he said. “As the College moves toward a model whereby more and more students are conducting their own original research and creating their own knowledge, it will become less likely for a student to be able to rely solely on Wikipedia.”

22 alumni say they will not donate until cross is restored to Wren

CROSS ALUMNI *from page 1*

Pierce resides in Orange County, Calif., where she lives with her husband and three young children. She said that, despite being a busy mother, when she heard about the policy change she dropped everything to find out more.

She signed both the SavetheWrenCross.org petition and the “No cross, no cash” listing. She said that until last year she felt that the College was man-

aged well, but now she fears its financial status and academic reputation will suffer.

“If this controversy remains in the papers and on the internet while we await the decision of the President’s committee, some students who have been admitted to several universities may choose another over William and Mary,” she said. “I have also heard from several friends with juniors in high school who say William and Mary was on their list for applications, but if

the cross stays out, so will their children.”

Pieri said that it is not uncommon for donors to withhold contributions to schools due to various issues, but that the number of people who have contacted the College to do so is small.

“Any time that somebody indicates to us that they’re going to withhold a donation ... we work very hard to try to restore those relationships,” he said. “Students are the ones negatively impacted.”

Hagel sends hopeful message in 314th Charter Day address

HAGEL HOPES *from page 1*

challenges ahead. Our strength is our people. We must never forget that our greatest responsibility is to help make a better world.”

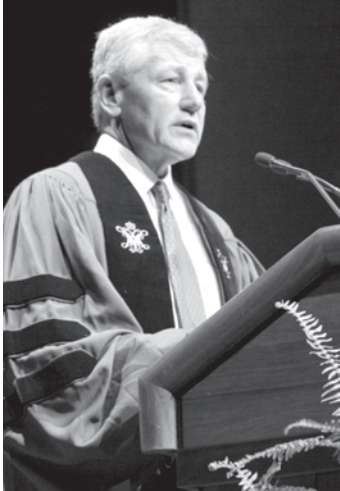
Hagel received an honorary doctorate of public service from the College. Other honorary doctorate recipients were Alfred Marshall Acuff Junior, who received a doctor of humane letters and JoAnn Falletta, who received a doctor of arts.

In addition to the honorary doctorate recipients, several staff, students, and alumni were recognized at the charter day ceremony. Sociology Professor Kathleen Slevin was given the Thomas Jefferson Award.

The Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award was presented to Associate Professor of Mathematics, Vladimir Bolotnikov.

Two students received awards at the ceremony. Senior Kendra Letchwork received the Thomas Jefferson Prize in Natural Philosophy for her work she has done with the College’s physics department.

The James Monroe Prize in civic leadership went to senior Cosmo Fujiyama. Fujiyama received the award for her service



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.) spoke at the 314th Charter Day.

work and international study. Fujiyama is the founder of the college group Student’s Helping Honduras which started from a fundraising campaign she started to save an orphanage in the country.

In addition, President Gene Nichol instigated a new tradition of presenting the recipients of the alumni medallion. There were five alumni who received the honor this year, Constance Warren Desaulniers (’75), Thomas P. Hollowell (MLT ’69), Susan Aheron Magill (’72), Theresa Thompson (’67), and Winfred O’Neil Ward (’54).

Local unemployment falls in 2006

UNEMPLOYMENT *from page 3*

to the Williamsburg area economy and generated 3,371 jobs within the area between 2004 and 2005. Students and visitors added over \$41 million to the local economy.

“The community is looking at ways [to try] to bring the right mix of facilities to the campus area. For example, there are not many clothing stores that cater to the college crowd, so we are always looking for those types of stores for the area,” Batten said.

Additionally, the College is active in the economic development of the Williamsburg area. The Foundation for William and Mary is a partner in the construction of New Town, the mixed-use development off of Route 199 that incorporates shops, restaurants and housing into one location.

For the 2006 to 2007 school year, the College has also identified economic goals including increased student retail opportunities and a plan to place the School of Education on the old Sentara Hospital grounds.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Double the Flat Hat

Today’s issue marks a first for The Flat Hat and the College. The Flat Hat has faithfully served its readers at the College for over 96 years, publishing the campus’s best news and opinions every week during the school year. Beginning today, The Flat Hat will print twice each week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, and will be available at locations across campus by 5 p.m.

With two issues each week, we’ll be able to deliver more relevant and timely news. The College is often tarred as sleepy and boring, but our campus is filled with interesting people and dramatic events. Whether these stories are funny and personal like That Guy, or national debates over weighty topics like religion and tradition, like our continuing coverage of the Wren cross controversy, they all play an important role in making our community what it is, and they should be reflected in the pages of the paper.

By expanding to twice weekly, we hope to make these stories more accessible. The College and the nature of news is becoming more and more immediate. People expect news to be available 24 hours a day, and it is high time that The Flat Hat adapted. Of the 34 top tier U.S. News and World Report schools with more than 5,000 undergraduates, only three others have student newspapers that print weekly.

The students at the College are some of the smartest in the country, and they deserve the chance to read and help produce a top-flight student newspaper. Now we do.

Whether these stories are funny and personal or national debates over weighty topics like religion and tradition, they all play an important role in making our community what it is, and they should be reflected in the pages of the paper.

All of your favorite features will remain in the paper. Tuesdays will showcase the “Sports Feature,” an in-depth look at Tribe athletics on the back page, and the “From the Sidelines” sports column. On Fridays, you can look forward to the Reviews section, “That Guy” and “That Girl,” Kate Prengaman’s “Behind Closed Doors,” horoscopes and the “Homefield Advantage” sports column. The News, Opinions, Variety and Sports sections and Sudoku, Street Beat, Police Beat, Under the Microscope and Confusion Corner columns will run in every issue.

In order to make twice-weekly printing cost effective, there will be fewer copies of each issue printed, and they will be distributed

at fewer locations. The paper will no longer be delivered to individual dorms or most academic buildings, but there will still be plenty of copies in public areas such as the University Center, the Caf, the Rec Center, Swem Library and the Campus Center. For a full listing of the new delivery locations, see our advertisement on page 3.

The new printing schedule allows us to offer more positions and opportunities to interested students. Writers, photographers, artists, editors and business managers are always welcome at The Flat Hat, and interested students should e-mail editor@flathatnews.com to set up a meeting. Any reader with a tip or story idea for the paper should e-mail news@flathatnews.com. We look forward to continuing to serve our readers by producing a professional, high quality newspaper of which the College can be proud.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Wren cross controversy overrated

Over the past few months, there have been numerous and varied reactions to President Gene Nichol’s decision to alter the display times of the Wren cross. The most vocal reactions, unsurprisingly, have come from those who have felt offense, disappointment and outrage over this action, and most who have objected to the President’s decision seem to have done so for religious reasons. My reaction to the Wren cross situation comes from a similar place.



Devan Barber

It is partly because of my religious upbringing and background that I do not object to Nichol’s decision. I was raised and confirmed as a Roman Catholic, a religion which uses the crucifix, a cross depicting the actual body of Jesus. We pray to the cross, our priest enters the church behind a cross, an enormous cross hangs behind our altar and most traditional Catholic churches are actually shaped like crosses. When Catholics make the sign of the cross (a ritual hand motion tracing the cross on one’s body), we recite, “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,” articulating the significance of our movements. There has never been a doubt in my mind what the cross symbolizes for Catholics — a constant, and quite literal, reminder of faith.

I have now started attending a non-denominational evangelistic (not to be confused with evangelical) church. Over the course of our four-hour services, there is rarely ever a mention of the cross, and I have not noticed a cross hanging in the church building. The use of a cross is just one of the many distinct differences between these two denominations of Christianity, and yet, their foundational beliefs are still the same.

Essentially, I see no hindrance of faith caused by Nichol’s decision. My religious beliefs have always been extremely personal, and have not changed with the scenery, symbolism or rhetoric of my church experiences. I do not see how changing the Wren cross’s presence from “permanent” to “every Sunday, and whenever it is requested” stands in the way of Christian worship. I can understand how the presence of a permanent cross could offend non-Christians; what I do not understand is the lack of a permanent cross’s ability to offend. The presence of a physical cross may add to one’s religious experience, but its absence should have no bearing on one’s capacity for prayer, meditation or contemplation.

Most students seem to think that the Wren cross is not a significant issue, and generally approve of Nichol’s performance over the past year.

It is clear that when President Nichol made his original decision, he had no idea that the outrage would be so great. I believe that he made his decision based on comments he’d received from students and chose to alter the display times of the cross accordingly. While I certainly understand and agree with the point many have made asserting that our president should not unilaterally make controversial decisions (and while I clearly do not speak for Nichol), I contend that he did not foresee the controversy that would arise. It is ridiculous to assume that Nichol would make the decision he did knowing that people would react with such fervor. The fact that his decision has turned into a controversy does not indicate a secret agenda, nor a lack of desire to consult with others on difficult issues. It is my opinion that Nichol has been criticized too harshly for this “unilateral decision” when he

makes countless others on a daily basis — it is the job he was hired by this College to perform.

At this point it is clear that no matter what consensus is reached there will be disappointed individuals, since many personal opinions and beliefs are involved. Perhaps, then, we should take a look at what facts we have available to us. Professor Holmes from the College’s religious studies department has shown that not permanently displaying the cross does not offend history — the Wren Chapel never even had a cross until the 1930s. At last week’s Board of Visitors’ meeting, College alumnus and leader of OurCampusUnited.org, Brian Cannon (’04) revealed the extent to which outsiders have jumped onto this issue: a whopping 70 percent of the signatures from the “Save the Wren Cross” petition are from individuals with no affiliation to the College. James Ambrose, the student liason to the BOV, added that, from his conversations on campus, most students seem to think that the Wren cross is not a significant issue, and generally approve of Nichol’s performance over the past year.

It seems to me that the voice of protest against Nichol’s decision has been dominated by outside parties and political operatives. While I respect the dissenting opinion, I would much rather hear from those affiliated with the College who disagree with Nichol’s decision, not outsiders taking on the cause themselves for political gain. In fact, I would love to see a civilized discussion about this issue among students, an important population whose views on the matter (on both sides) have not been taken enough into consideration.

Devan Barber, a junior at the College, is a Staff Columnist. Her columns appear every Tuesday.



Clothes make the man

A love of the College didn’t prompt me to attend President Gene Nichol’s lobbying trip, Road to Richmond. Don’t get me wrong, I love the College, but I got up at 5 a.m. for selfish reasons: I like wearing a suit.

There is a certain nobility endowed on business majors, government majors and frat brothers — ties are a must. Those lucky bastards have an excuse to dress fancy all of the time. “You see, I’m meeting U.N. Secretary General Koffi Annan today, so I thought it would be a good idea to look presentable,” a government major once explained to me when I asked him about his dapper duds.

With these vêtements comes respectability and the promise of future wealth. If clothes make a man, then my closet full of t-shirts, jeans and thrift store sweaters bespeak a humdrum adulthood followed by an equally salubrious old age and death.

As I stepped onto the bus that morning, wearing a suit that fit my father back when people still read the newspaper, I suddenly felt seven degrees more serious. Like a chameleon, I had taken on the skin of my environment.

Tightening my face and pursing my lips, I sat down in silence and prayed that I would manage to fit in with all of these serious people. I reclined, afraid that my utter lack of knowledge regarding the inner workings of Virginia’s legislature would betray me.

“I want to thank all of you for coming,” Nichol began several hours later as breakfast was served. “Gosh, Gene Nichol is such a powerful speaker,” someone eating with me said. “He sure is,” I responded between heaping mouthfuls of egg casserole.

I took a break from my plate to give Nichol a decent glance and was astonished by what I saw. “Oh my god, Gene Nichol lost so much weight,” I said to the people around me. I noticed folds in his suit that had developed in absence of his once generous

girth. The chest, the sleeves, everything about his suit screamed of deprivation.

To everyone else, Nichol was still the same ebullient, progressively minded president he had been before. To me, he was a changed man. His immense size, at one time more intimidating than a polar bear, was now less daunting than a house cat. Nichol continued speaking, but I was not listening. His “Hark upon the Gale,” though heartfelt, lacked a certain schmaltz.

While everyone else at the College argues about Nichol’s removal of the Wren cross, I’ll be taking up my own issue. Nichol better gain some weight. If that means adding another meal, then so be it. If Nichol has to help himself to three servings of cake a day, fine by me. Who knows, perhaps he’ll have to cut down on exercise a bit. Instead of walking across the Wren courtyard to his office in Brafferton, I suggest he invest in a golf cart. And would it hurt anyone if he kept a few candy bars in the pockets of his suit at all times?

I cannot stand the thought of a diminished Nichol. He deserves a size equal to his eloquence. As much

as I wish we could all get by on personality alone, that doesn’t cut it. While the craziness of my personality quickly betrayed my attire’s respectability that day, it’s not my

suit’s fault. I’d chosen an appearance that didn’t match the person inside me. A rodeo clown outfit probably would have been a more appropriate fit.

But Nichol is different. He is the certifiable real thing. A larger-than-life figure who stands up for ideals and says things too intelligent for me to comprehend. How can his size be anything but grand?

Nichol finished speaking and everyone began to clap. “What a brilliant man,” someone said amidst the roar of the applause. As he stepped down from the podium, I watched him walk towards the table where plates of eggs, danishes, and bagels waited to be eaten. “You can do it, Gene Nichol,” I whispered to myself. Hoping, praying, that everything would work out.

James Damon, a sophomore at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His columns appear every Tuesday.

I cannot stand the thought of a diminished Gene Nichol. He deserves a size to equal his eloquence.

Be wary of Wikipedia

College professors nationwide have grown tired of their students’ mindless reliance on Wikipedia. More than ever, students are citing the online encyclopedia as their primary (and secondary and tertiary) source of misinformation. Last month, Middlebury College’s history department decided to ban students from citing Wikipedia in academic work. Professors nationwide have followed suit.

I visited the wiki-misinformation superhighway, searching “Wikipedia.” Wikipedia is a branch of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. Thousands of members continually edit the site, with changes “made available immediately on the Web, without formal peer review ... Wikipedia allows almost anyone to edit.” Since it doesn’t require one’s identity, it continues to be a target of “vandalism.” One of the co-founders noted, “When someone writes ‘fuck, fuck, fuck,’ we fix it, laugh, [and] move on.” Students, however, find Wikipedia as a great shortcut to reading, researching and studying. Many use it as a second source, when Sparknotes isn’t enough. Most students frequent Wikipedia for information, but have sense enough to take their findings with a grain of salt. Most professors seem to have no problem with students using Wikipedia as a starting point in whatever research they are involved in, but don’t accept it as a source “in itself.”

A college education demands more than two clicks of a mouse. There must be a reason why teachers require their students to actually engage in dense readings and extensive research projects — no, it’s not because they’re maniacal luddites, or sadists who take pleasure in their student’s squalors; some believe that an old-school approach to research yields a fruition of

knowledge not retainable otherwise. Since most students aren’t used to reading for more than two minutes at a given time, they find themselves losing focus, losing interest and losing consciousness altogether.

Traditional approaches to research demand time and attention, neither of which we have in this day and age. So, Wikipedia is both the starting and finishing point for many. This may arise from a general lack of experience with extensive research reading. Wikipedia is an image of our age, where we are our persons of the year, our source of entertainment on the web, our official editors-in-chief and educators of the masses.

With this comes the problem of accountability. Since there’s no one to blame, no harm has been made and no damage done. Ex-co-founder Larry Sanger argues that there is a lack of respect for people who know what they’re talking about: “Nearly everyone with much expertise but little patience will avoid editing Wikipedia, because they will be forced to defend their edits on article

discussion pages against attacks by nonexperts.” Other criticisms include a bias of interests. People are writing what they want to read and not what’s expected in an encyclopedia.

In response to Sanger, an anonymous blogger asked, “How about you damn elites, you crème de la academia, stop being such snobs? I want to learn, yes, but I don’t want to listen to your highly decorated speech patterns. I want to get to point A to point B without taking a detour into bookworm-land. Make it fun, make it exciting, and stop jerking your intellectual sperm all over what otherwise could have been a fine article for those ignorant of your field to begin with.”

We all know that any idiot can erroneously contribute to Wikipedia. Maybe we should consider this the next time we’re studying for an exam. Use it as a source, and you’ll spend the entire night trying to verify it.

Sherif Abdelkarim, a sophomore at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His columns appear every Tuesday.

Wikipedia is an image of our age, where we are ... editors-in-chief and educators of the masses.

VARIETY

Variety Editor Chase Johnson
Associate Variety Editor Megan Doyle
variety@flathatnews.com

Opening of new Green Leafe Gourmet delayed

By Chase Johnson
Flat Hat Variety Editor

The Green Leafe Cafe, one point of the “deli triangle” located across the street from the Bryan Complex, is expanding to New Town. The opening of the new Green Leafe Gourmet, originally scheduled for January of this year, has been delayed to mid-April because the county has been inundated with the development of the New Town complex, according to owner Glenn Gormley, ’84, MBA ’89.

Although the Gourmet will be affiliated with the popular restaurant and bar known well by students at the College, it will not be the same type of establishment.

“The Gourmet will be a more upscale delicatessen than the Cafe across from the College,” Gormley said. “It will have in-

house dining where you’ll get served at the counter. We’re also housing a catering endeavor in the new building, and we’ll be able to cater sorority and fraternity events.”

In terms of comparison, Gormley said the new restaurant will be an “upscale Panera — we’ll have more dinner items than Panera, and we’ll also serve alcohol.” Gormley estimated that the Gourmet would have a smaller selection of beer than the Cafe, though the variety will still be ample. The current location offers 34 brews on draft and 150 varieties of bottled beer, while the Gourmet will feature around six draft beers and 100 bottled selections. Wine will also be incorporated into the menu.

In addition, Gormley said the Gourmet will be open for breakfast, serving coffee, danishes and

other assorted breakfast pastries.

Gormley graduated from both the College’s undergraduate and graduate business schools and has worked at the Green Leafe since he was a student. “I started working at the Green Leafe as an undergrad,” he said in a Feb. 4 article in the Daily Press. “Some employee quit one day. One of my [wrestling] teammates worked there. He called me up, I showed up, and I haven’t left.” He went on to acquire the business in 1989.

Gormley ascribed the desire to expand to a basic lesson he learned in business school. “It’s always better to have a diversified portfolio. With the development of New Town, I’m anticipating a shift in part of the student market to the newer restaurants,” he said.

Part of the decision might also



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
The new Green Leafe Gourmet, located in the New Town complex, is expected to open sometime in mid-April.

be that Gormley is an alumnus of the College and is aware of the current frictions between the city and students. “The city was being non-responsive to the wants, wishes and desires of the students,” he said, “It seems like there is a desire for the city to

not be involved with the College — the county is the one helping the College with the development of New Town, not the city. We have a great relationship with the school, and since they have a vested interest in New Town, we decided to get involved, too.”

Gormley and the Green Leafe staff hope to have the new restaurant open in time for graduation and the celebration marking the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement. They will have a better idea of a final opening date by Feb. 22.

TRACY MORGAN GETS DOWN WITH W&M



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT
Comedian and ‘SNL’ alum Tracy Morgan gets intimate with the crowd last weekend in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. Morgan’s performance was part of the College’s Charter Day celebration, and was sponsored by the University Center Activities Board.

Muscarelle exhibit crosses cultural lines

By Rachel Ohm
The Flat Hat

American Indian artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith is the subject of a new collection now on display at the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

The exhibit, entitled “Jaune Quick-To-See Smith: Contemporary Native American Paintings and the Response to Colonization ... Anniversary of the Beginning ... Beginning of the End,” coincides with the upcoming celebration of the Jamestown 400th Anniversary. At the time of European settlement in the Americas, millions of American Indians suffered from the introduction of small pox and other diseases into their communities, as well as from cultural subjugation. Smith uses the mistreatment of her ancestors as inspiration for her art.

Included in the exhibit are numerous historically contextual documents such as a map belonging to explorer John Smith, a 17th-century charter and letters from U.S. President Thomas Jefferson, all of which belong to the College and serve to enlighten viewers about American Indian and colonial history. The artist’s work, however, is not strictly historical. Dr. Aaron De Groft, director of the Muscarelle, describes it

as “looking at the past, but also looking ahead — not just at the then but also now.”

The exhibit is also a testament to the role of art in preserving a culture, according to Smith. “We American Indians are alive everywhere across this nation. American Indians have consistently endured, using humor and art as part of our cultural support system. We are here to stay,” she said.

Smith said her artwork sends a message that radiates beyond the immediate realm of concern for American Indian tradition. Through her work, she addresses political, environmental and social issues that transcend barriers of race and ways of life. “My art is created from a Native worldview. That belief is that the world and all its living matter ... are all tied together in what’s been described as the great net,” she said.

De Groft elaborated, stressing several inherent human acts that are represented in Smith’s work. “It’s about trade, it’s about land, civil rights, travel, all sorts of things,” he said.

Smith draws inspiration from her life experiences and heritage, and manifests her concern for the preservation of American Indian tradition using a variety of mediums, including watercolors, collage and prints. A unique aspect of her

work is its multifaceted use of cartoons, contemporary culture, classical literary and artistic allusions from works such as Picasso’s “Guernica” or Shakespeare and traditional American Indian symbolism. “There are political overtones that are in some ways subtle, in some ways not so subtle,” De Groft said.

The result is art that critics have called interesting and thought-provoking, and that conveys an appreciation for a worldview of acceptance and tolerance.



COURTESY PHOTO • MUSCARELLE
Artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith

CONFUSION CORNER Early engagement epidemic throws ring shoppers for a loop

I have recently become terribly aware that a single concept has clouded my mind as I turn to topics of interest on campus.

Something like a fog has settled in the very recesses of my thoughts, turning neurons to mush and producing a distinct ache in the ring finger of my left hand.

It seems

to me that this epidemic is spreading rapidly through my peer group and affecting male and female students alike. The only cure is acute scrutiny of feminist texts, family law and tabloid breakups.

I, like many among me, am held in utter fear and terror of the looming prospect of commitment — not just any old promise of chastity, either. I can only imagine the shock and horror that grips you, dear reader, as you examine your own relationship or distinct lack thereof. How on Earth is it possible that I find it relative and, in stronger words, pressing that this outrageous outbreak of proposals be exposed?

My suitemate is engaged so I figured I’d take advantage and ask her some questions. When did you get engaged?

“Well, I’ve actually been engaged since the fall of my freshman year.”

Seriously? I had no idea. I feel terrible for not knowing.

“I didn’t get a ring until fall of sophomore year.” Relieved.

Why didn’t you tell anyone that you were engaged?

“I don’t know. I didn’t tell my parents and that just sort of spread to my close friends, because I was 18 and it was kind of weird.”

Fair enough.

“I guess you can include the military aspect of it,” she added, “because he’s in a military college; his roommate is married right now, but I mean, he’s going to Afghanistan.”

So now I just feel like a douche for being down on marriage. Nothing trumps a soldier off to war. I’m still not quite sure how whether being engaged or not changes anything about the fundamentals of a relationship.

Military aside, it all seems a little too trite — Valentine’s Day, sales at Zales in the mall, visions of the Christopher Wren Building

in April. I am also a bit of a hypocrite. There is nothing I want more for my wedding than to be married in the Wren Chapel. This, of course, is a huge limiting factor to my future husband pool as only couples of two alumni can marry there. A terrible thought process ensues.

With so many young Americans getting engaged, wouldn’t you think there would be some better low-cost ring options? I’m not saying people need Pave settings or the newest Tiffany cut (the “brilliant,” I believe), but if this is an outward symbol of inward love, I think I want a little more than a high-set chip. There seems to be a chasm between a “nothing ring,” as my mother would say, and a ring that requires a down payment (“a much better use of the money,” according to my father).

Why on Earth does an engagement require a ring anyway? Women get tricked into being marked as “off the market” with distractingly beautiful diamonds while men can waltz away with ... well, you see the discrepancy.

And about that standard stone, how boring! If, as I believe is the case, everyone is marching to the altar in a matter of months, wouldn’t you want your ring (if you happen to get one) to be unique? Diamonds aren’t any more rare than other stones; in fact, the ruby is much harder to come across in nature. De Beers just happens to have a monopoly on the diamond market. But whatever the reason — the politics of gender or, perhaps, of mines — rings make a lot of people uncomfortable.

Why not take away some of the pressure for the rest of us and nix the engagement rings for a while? You can get engaged without proclaiming it ostentatiously to everyone else. Plus, by eliminating the engagement ring bought in budget-conscious and style-stunted youth, there will be fewer awkward moments of somewhat insincere admiration, such as “oh wow, what a flawless (if somewhat diminutive) diamond!”

I know that winter is long, and the return of spring promises the return of love, lust and romance, but save us all some anxiety and you can save yourself some money, too. Chances are you’ll need it with all these pending nuptials.

Charlotte Savino is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She doesn’t need the Tiffany cut, but she wouldn’t turn it down either.

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Source: crazydad.com

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Easy

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Hard

FROM THE SIDELINES

Wade Phillips: wrong choice for Cowboys

I am, and have been for as long as I can remember, a Buffalo Bills fan. Why I chose to adopt this team as my favorite NFL franchise, nobody really knows for sure. My mother believes it had something to do with the fact that their name started with the letter ‘B’ (at a young age

I also picked the Toronto Blue Jays and the Chicago Bulls as my favorite MLB and NBA teams, respectively). Regardless of how it came to be, I am a Bills fan through and through. For some of you, this may be reason enough that I am appalled by the Dallas Cowboys’ decision last week to hire Wade Phillips as their head coach. For the rest of you, please allow me to explain.

In 1998, Phillips, who had previous head coaching experience with the Broncos, was hired as coach to replace retired Hall of Fame coach (and former Tribe football head coach) Marv Levy. Phillips acquired two quarterbacks during the offseason, Rob Johnson (whose career accomplishments now include having the highest sack rate per pass attempts in NFL history) and Doug Flutie. Johnson won the starting job and began the season 0-3 before going out with a rib injury. Flutie promptly came in and went 10-3 as a starter, helping the Bills to the playoffs for the first time since Jim Kelly was their quarterback, before they were bounced out in the first round by the Miami Dolphins.

Flutie entered the 1999 campaign as the starter and led the club to a 10-5 record through the first 15 games before being held out of the final regular-season to rest up for the playoffs. However, after Johnson put up impressive numbers in the meaningless season finale, Phillips made quite possibly the worst decision in NFL playoff coaching history (although Andy Reid’s decision to punt on 4th and 15 at the end of this year’s divisional round playoff game against the New Orleans Saints ranks up there as well), and chose to start Johnson in the Bills’ first round playoff game against the Tennessee Titans.

That game is now famous for another reason, as the Titans won it on the “Music City Miracle,” the play where Titans’ tight end Frank Wycheck tossed the ball across the field to wide receiver Kevin Dyson, who returned it for a touchdown, winning the game 22-16. The Bills finished the next season, Phillips’ last, at 8-8 and out of the playoffs, as Phillips went back and forth between Johnson and Flutie as his starter throughout the season. Flutie left for the Chargers in the offseason. I still haven’t fully recovered. Neither have the Bills,

who have not made the playoffs since the “Music City Miracle.” Phillips has not been a head coach in the NFL since — until now. He has spent the past three seasons as the defensive coordinator of the San Diego Chargers. Nobody doubts Phillips’ ability as a coordinator — his track record of improving defenses is remarkable. But why Cowboys owner Jerry Jones would believe for a second that Phillips, with his career 0-3 playoff record and penchant for making outrageously stupid big game decisions, is the man to put the Cowboys over the top is beyond explanation.

The Cowboys are hardly a rebuilding project. Many of the pieces are in place for a championship run, particularly in the watered-down NFC. If Jones wanted Phillips to help solidify the defense that badly, then he could have just offered him more money than San Diego was giving him and brought him in as defensive coordinator. Jones has already made some questionable decisions in the coaching search process this offseason, as he hired former Cowboys quarterback Jason Garrett to an unspecified position on the coaching staff, presumably either offensive coordinator or perhaps even head coach.

Now, with the hiring of Phillips, a variety of complications may develop, the first being that Garrett, having already sniffed the head coaching job, will become resentful of being stuck behind the old-school style Phillips, especially if there is a power struggle over how to handle the offense’s two most volatile players, wide receiver Terrell Owens and quarterback Tony Romo (speaking of Mr. Carrie Underwood, has anyone else noticed how Romo is putting on his best behavior since his infamous fumble in the Cowboys’ first round playoff exit? Bill Parcells must be throwing things at the TV screen after every “Well, shucks, I sure let my team down” interview Romo gives).

Secondly, Phillips may not be crazy about not being able to choose his own offensive coordinator, instead finding himself stuck with an up-and-coming coach who, until Phillips’ hiring, was a candidate for his own job. It is foolish of Jones to assume that this will progress smoothly.

So, Cowboys fans, take heed from someone who has been hurt before — Wade Phillips is a heartbreaker. Although, after what your ’Boys did to my Bills in 1992 and 1993, I can’t say you don’t deserve it.

Jeff Dooley is the associate sports editor for The Flat Hat. He still has a Doug Flutie poster up in his room.

BASEBALL: TRIBE 3, NORTH CAROLINA STATE 6

Wolfpack sweeps opening series

Tribe starts out 2007 campaign 0-3; home opener tomorrow vs. VMI

By Maddy Wolfert
The Flat Hat

Tribe baseball enters the 2007 season after a strong finish in 2006, when they won 10 of their final 13 games. With eight starting position players returning this year, including senior third baseman and all-conference candidate Greg Sexton, sophomore third baseman and 2006 all-CAA Rookie Team honoree Mike Sheridan, senior second baseman Brent McWhorter and junior left fielder Greg Maliniak, the team is prepared and ready for the season.

“We have a very talented team offensively, and we can use a lineup, one through nine, that has a good combination of speed and power. Coupled with an experienced unit defensively and a pitching staff that is young but talented, we have the opportunity to be very good,” Head Coach Frank Leoni said.

The team hit a rough patch against the North Carolina State University Wolfpack, falling last Friday afternoon in its season opener, 4-9. Junior pitcher Sean Grieve took the loss for the College on the hill. Offensively, the Tribe was led by Maliniak and McWhorter, who both had two hits a piece, and sophomore center fielder Ben Guez, who scored two runs. The College got on the board in the top of the fifth, scoring two runs on a Maliniak double to right center followed by a McWhorter single to center, and an error by N.C. State third baseman Ryan Howard with the bases loaded.

The second game in the three-game set proved a difficult contest for the Tribe, as the Wolfpack



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT
After winning 10 of their final 13 games last season, the Tribe has gone 0-3 to start 2007.

shut out the Tribe 0-23. N.C. State starting pitcher Eric Surkamp earned the win, while Mike LaFleur recorded the loss on the hill for the Tribe. After sending 16 batters to the plate in the first inning, the Wolfpack took a 12-0 advantage, putting the game out of reach early for the Tribe. Senior relief pitcher Warrick Staines pitched three innings in relief for the Tribe, giving up just two hits, two walks and one run. Although the College could not manage to score any runs, Sexton, Maliniak, McWhorter, sophomore right fielder Robbie Nickle, junior catcher Tim Park and junior designated hitter Aaron Hurwitz all recorded hits.

In the third and final game of the series against N.C. State, the Tribe had standout performances from Park, who earned two hits, an RBI and a run scored, and junior relief pitcher Pat Kantakevich, who held the Wolfpack scoreless in the final three innings. N.C. State ultimately earned the win, 6-3, with Tribe freshman starting pitcher Kevin Landry recording the loss. In the top of the third, the Tribe look its first lead of the series, 3-1, as Maliniak singled to load the bases. Park then followed with a RBI single and McWhorter with a RBI groundout.

The Tribe is back in action tomorrow for their home opener at Plumeri Park against Virginia Military Institute at 3 p.m.

Men hold off UNCW in 61-55 victory



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT
Senior Adam Payton had 7 rebounds vs. UNCW.

M. HOOPS from page 8
on senior guard Adam Payton’s layup. The Tribe’s lead was tenuous the rest of the way. After Mann’s fourth three-pointer of the game pushed the College’s lead to seven at 51-44, it appeared that the Tribe was going to pull away, but UNCW responded with a 10-3 run to tie the score at 54-54 with 3:22 left. The teams traded empty possessions until Mann’s jumper broke the tie at the 2:08 mark. UNCW had its chance to tie the game when Tribe sophomore forward Peter Stein sent the Seahawks’ Vladimir Kuljanin to the foul line with just under a minute left. Kuljanin stepped to the line and missed both free throws. The Tribe, however, could not capitalize and committed a turnover. Seahawks’ Head Coach Benny Moss called a timeout with 29 seconds remaining in order to set up a final play, but after the timeout, Payton stole the ball

from UNCW’s Todd Hendley and was fouled. Payton’s two free throws pushed the Tribe’s lead to 58-54 with 18 seconds left. The College gave the Seahawks another chance when Mann fouled Montez Downey as he attempted a three-pointer; however, Downey converted only one of three free throws and Mann sealed the Tribe’s victory with two free throws.
The College will look to add to its win total when the Drexel University Dragons visit Kaplan Arena tomorrow at 7 p.m. Drexel is riding a three-game CAA winning streak, including an impressive road victory at Hofstra University. Additionally, the Dragons have won several tough non-conference games against Big East Conference foes Syracuse University and Villanova University. The Tribe has never defeated Drexel in conference play, but after two consecutive road victories, the College will be ready for the challenge.

Laycock signs 16 newcomers to letters of intent

RECRUITS from page 8

The College will suffer three losses on offense as tight end Matt Trinkle, center Cody Morris and running back Elijah Brooks have exhausted their eligibility. Kicker/punter Blair Pritchard is also graduating this spring.

By signing 13 players who have had some experience on the defensive side of the ball, Laycock has taken strides to address the loss of five of the team’s defensive starters. In fact, the only incoming players not to see time on defense in high school are quarterback Terrance Schmand, punter/wide receiver Bret Ploucha and running back/wide receiver Ryan Woolfolk.

“We felt our numbers were getting skewed more toward the offense then the defense so when

push came to shove we [recruited more defensive players],” Laycock said. “A number of guys that we signed have the flexibility of going either way, but we wanted to make sure they could play defense.”

Five of the 16 signees are offensive/defensive linemen, with the largest being Jake Marcey of Gainesville, Va. Marcey, who is listed at 6’4” and 280 pounds, was named first team all-state by the Virginia Independent School Football Association during his senior year. Linemen Dan Donker of Voorhees, N.J. and Harold Robertson of Richmond, Va., weigh in at 285 and 295 pounds, respectively.

Linebackers Marcus Hyde of Manassas, Va., and Jake Trantin of Severn, Md., carry perhaps the highest accolades of the 2007 recruits. Hyde was named the

AAA State Defensive Player of the Year by the Virginia High School League Coaches Association and named a first-team all-state pick by the Washington Post. Trantin was named a first-team all-Met linebacker by both the Post and Baltimore Sun while the Post also named Trantin their county defensive player of the year.

Despite every recruit’s solid credentials, Coach Laycock doesn’t feel that there is a clear-cut first-year starter among them.

“I’m pleased with them all, but I don’t know if there is anybody I can jump out and say he is a definite player as a freshman. I’ve been surprised too many times,” Laycock said.

This past year, the Tribe’s roster sported 50 players from Virginia, constituting 52 percent of the

team. While Laycock and his staff have taken strides in recent years to recruit more from outside the Commonwealth, as evidenced by 10 of this year’s 16 recruits coming from out of state, the coaching staff’s main focus will continue to stay in the region.

“We are going to look at the Virginia [recruits] first and then we are going to expand out and try to find as many as we can. The Middle Atlantic is probably the biggest area for us because that’s where players know about us and parents can come down and see games,” Laycock said.

Every new recruit will begin workouts with the team over the summer, and by the time the College’s late August opener nears, expect each freshman and the rest of the Tribe to be ready to play.

Defense leads women past UNCW

W. HOOPS from page 8

3-way conference tie for fifth place with Georgia State University and Towson University. With five more league games to go, the Tribe needs just one more victory to ensure a winning season. If the Tribe can complete this task, it will mark the first back-to-back winning seasons in the College’s Division I history.

From the outset, the College dominated the Seahawks. In the opening minutes the Tribe jumped out to a 9-0 lead. Although UNCW fought back, the College played outstanding defense and was very aggressive on the boards. At the conclusion of the first half, the Tribe held a comfortable 11-point lead.

The Seahawks came out strong after intermission, cutting the lead

to 4 points in the beginning of the second half. James then responded by single-handedly scoring 10 unanswered points to push the margin back and help the Tribe command a sizable 14-point lead. From that point on, the College never looked back.

From a statistical standpoint, the Tribe held the upper hand both offensively and defensively. The College out-shot UNCW 37.7 percent to 27.8 percent and held a 44-32 advantage on the boards.

“It was an overall good team performance,” said Kaylor. “We played well together and finally out-rebounded our opponents. It’s also really good to have Courtney Portell back after being on the injured list. If we keep working hard and focusing on rebounding, we will continue to

win games.”

The College is set to play Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond this Thursday. The Tribe is only two games behind the Rams and every team in the conference is fighting for the top four spots, so this will be 3-way conference tie for fifth place with Georgia State University and Towson University. With five more league games to go, the Tribe needs just one more victory to a big game for both teams.

“If we limit them early and continue to rebound well, we should be able to secure a win,” says Coach Taylor. “We also need to score more down the stretch, but we’ve been doing our best and that’s all I can ask for.”

W. Tennis

W. TENNIS from page 8

68 in singles, was under pressure to defeat no. 25 singles player and ACC Player of the Week Kirsten Flower. Despite severe leg cramps, Zoricic won the three-set match 7-5, 5-7, 6-2, and improved her record to 15-5 overall in the process.

After the victory over Georgia Tech, the Tribe traveled to play no. 35 ranked Purdue. Once again, the College earned a win, as they topped the Boilermakers 5-2. The no. 1 doubles pair of Moulton-Levy and Zoricic won another match, pushing their winning streak to 15 straight. Moulton-Levy, Zoricic, Acharya and Lauren Sabacinski earned singles victories for the Tribe as well.

THIS WEEK IN TRIBE SPORTS			
FEB 14 TO FEB 16			
<i>Baseball</i>			
VMI	Wed 2/14	3 p.m.	
Rutgers	Fri 2/16	3 p.m.	
<i>Men’s Basketball</i>			
Drexel	Wed 2/14	7 p.m.	
<i>Men’s Track & Field</i>			
Virginia Tech Challenge	Fri 2/16		
<i>Men’s Swimming & Diving</i>			
CAA Championships	Wed 2/14 through Sat 2/17 *		
<i>Women’s Tennis</i>			
Maryland	Wed 2/14	3 p.m.	
Marshall	Fri 2/16	5 p.m.	
<i>Women’s Basketball</i>			
Virginia Commonwealth	Thu 2/15	7 p.m.	
<i>Women’s Track & Field</i>			
Virginia Tech Challenge	Fri 2/16		
<i>Women’s Swimming & Diving</i>			
CAA Championships	Wed 2/14 through Sat 2/17 *		
* Meet held in Fairfax, VA			
Bold denotes home game.			

WOMEN’S TENNIS: TRIBE 5, PURDUE 2

Tribe takes down no. 1

Win over top-ranked Ga. Tech highlights road swing

BY KATE TEDESCO
THE FLAT HAT

The Tribe women’s tennis team has continued their strong spring season, improving to a 5-0 record. Last weekend, the team defeated the University of Illinois, no. 1-ranked Georgia Tech and Purdue University.

Against the Fighting Illini, the team won all of its doubles matches before going on to win its first five singles matches. The doubles pair of senior Megan Moulton-Levy and sophomore Katarina Zoricic, the top-ranked team in the nation, beat out Emily Wang and Bryce Marable, 8-1. This marked the 13th straight success for the duo and improved their record to 22-1 for the year.

Three Tribe freshmen gained victories in the third, fourth and sixth singles positions. At number

three singles, Ragini Acharya beat Marable in straight sets, 6-2 and 6-3, and earned her seventh win in a row. At the fourth singles position, Magdalena Bresson defeated Kristina Minor, 7-6, 7-5, gaining her 14th victory of the season. Finally, Carmen Pop defeated Wang, 6-3 and 7-5 in straight sets, improving her record during the 2006-2007 season to a perfect 11-0.

After defeating Illinois, the Tribe scored an upset over top-ranked Georgia Tech, 4-3. The Yellow Jackets came into the contest as the reigning USTA/ITA National Indoor Champion. The win also marked the first time the Tribe has defeated a no. 1 nationally ranked team since 1995.

“Obviously, we are excited about beating the no. 1 team in the country,” Tribe Head Coach Kevin Epley said. “With so many freshmen and

sophomores in our line-up, it was a huge task, and I was impressed with the ladies’ ability to believe in themselves throughout the match ... I can’t say enough about our team and the effort they put forth against one of the best teams in the country.”

The Tribe opened the match with the winning duo of Moulton-Levy and Zoricic. The two defeated Illinois’ Kristi Miller and Whitney McCray, 8-4. This marked the 14th straight victory for the girls and improved their record to an impressive 23-1. The College continued by defeating the Yellow Jackets at the no. 3 and no. 1 singles positions, and the no. 2 doubles position.

With the match score tied at 3-3, Katarina Zoricic, ranked No.

See W. TENNIS page 7

MEN’S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 61, NORTH CAROLINA-WILMINGTON 55

Mann, Payton seal victory

Tribe now looks to tomorrow’s showdown vs. Drexel

BY ANDREW PIKE
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER



KYLE MCMAHON • THE FLAT HAT
Junior Nathan Mann (11) scored 25 points Saturday.

For the first time in 13 years, the Tribe defeated the University of North Carolina-Wilmington Seahawks on the road, 61-55, Saturday night. The College’s win improved its record to 14-11 overall and 7-8 in the CAA. With the win over UNCW, the team becomes just the ninth in school history to amass 14 Division I victories in a season.

“I couldn’t be happier for this team. To come in this place on Homecoming weekend and get a win is pretty special,” Head Coach Tony Shaver said in a post-game radio interview.

The College spoiled UNCW’s homecoming game thanks in large part to the efforts of junior guard Nathan Mann. He matched his career-high with 25 points and has now reached double figures in four consecutive contests. His 18 second-half points allowed the Tribe to take the lead and hold on for victory.

Trailing 27-29 at the half, the College retook the lead for good with 17 minutes, 19 seconds remaining

See M. HOOPS page 7

W. BASKETBALL: TRIBE 56, UNCW 38

Tribe rebounds for CAA victory

James leads team with 17 points

BY JESSICA HECHT
THE FLAT HAT

After a hard-fought loss to Hofstra University last week, the women’s basketball team secured a 56-38 victory over the University of North Carolina-Wilmington Sunday afternoon. Junior Devin James led the Tribe on the scoreboard with 17 points. Junior forward Kyra Kaylor came up big defensively, securing 17 rebounds to go along with her 12 points. Freshman forward Tiffany Benson also recorded a double-

double with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

“We haven’t been getting the job done on the boards recently,” said Head Coach Debbie Taylor. “But after our poor team performance at Hofstra, we really held it down rebounding tonight. It was nice to see us take a stand defensively.”

The Tribe currently holds a 15-9 overall record and is 7-6 in CAA play. The College is in a

See W. HOOPS page 7



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT
Junior forward Kyra Kaylor, seen here against Northeastern Jan. 21, scored 12 points and hauled in 17 rebounds against UNCW Sunday.

SPORTS FEATURE

The recruiting game



FILE PHOTO • THE FLAT HAT
Head Coach Jimmye Laycock welcomes a new recruiting class.

Laycock signs 16 players to letters of intent; emphasis placed on defense

BY MILES HILDER
THE FLAT HAT

Wednesday, Feb. 7 was the NCAA’s national signing day for prep football players and college transfers. Fifteen high school players and one transfer student signed letters of intent to play for Head Coach Jimmye Laycock and the Tribe in the 2007 season.

Signing day marked the culmination of a whirlwind period for Laycock and his staff, as they traveled throughout the country to convince possible recruits to attend the College in the fall.

“You start working at recruiting in the spring and the summer and it’s broken down into different

phases over the year, but it’s something that you are basically working at year round,” Laycock said.

The recruiting game is vital to the success of all football programs at the collegiate level. As standout players graduate and move on, the onus is on a college’s coaching staff to ensure that their teams don’t miss a beat. The irony of developing a strong program is that recruits want to attend a school with a storied history in their sport, as well as a school with a proven track-record of success. However, without the right recruits in the first place, colleges have trouble fielding winning programs. The College has not had to worry about this over Coach Laycock’s tenure, as the Tribe has compiled 18 winning seasons over the last 23 years, but unlike other schools recruiting similar

players as the College, academics is a major factor.

“Our pool of candidates is much smaller than the other people we play because of the academic requirements, but once you find somebody in that pool, if they are looking for a quality education it is going to take precedent over how many games you won or lost each year. Grades are very important,” Laycock said.

The Tribe fielded a young team in 2006, as 14 of their 22 starters will return for the 2007 campaign, but only six of those will come from the defensive side of the ball as defensive standouts Josh Wright, Alan Wheeling, the McLaurin brothers and others have all wrapped up their careers for the Tribe.

See RECRUITS page 7

MEN’S TENNIS: TRIBE 7, JAMES MADISON 0

Men sweep Dukes to go 2-1 for weekend

Men fall to no. 23 Michigan Friday, knock off no. 73 Michigan State Sunday

BY HEATHER IRELAND
THE FLAT HAT

The men’s tennis team had a triumphant weekend, facing three opponents and coming out on top in two of the three matches. With their season record standing at 4-5, the Tribe is now moving in the right direction toward the CAA Championships, where they have experienced much success in the past.

The College first took on no. 23 University of Michigan Friday at the McCormack-Nagelsen Tennis Center, but fell to the nationally ranked team with a 6-1 final score. Michigan swept all three sets of doubles play, but senior Colin O’Brien and sophomore Alex Zuck put up a good fight against their no. 2 nationally ranked doubles opponent, only coming out 8-5 behind. Zuck was the only Tribe player to win his singles play, finishing up three sets 6-3, 6-7 (3), 1-0 (6) and saving the College from another shutout.

The first match Sunday was an upset against no. 74 Michigan State University, with the Tribe coming out with a 5-2 victory. O’Brien and Zuck were defeated by another ranked doubles team, but freshman Richard Wardell and sophomore Marwan Ramadan made up the only Tribe doubles team to clinch a win during doubles play, 8-5, giving Michigan State the early lead.

“I am proud of the way the guys competed,” Head Coach Peter Daub said. “We were as low as we could be after dropping the doubles point, but give the guys credit [for] bouncing back. We took a boxer’s punch and were flat on our backs, but it shows the character of our team to fight its way to a win against a solid Michigan State team.”

Five of the six singles matches went in the College’s favor, with the exception of Ramadan losing after a third-set tiebreaker. O’Brien clinched the victory over Michigan State when he defeated his opponent, ranked

51st in the country, for an upset win, 6-4, 7-5. The victory marked his fifth singles win over a ranked opponent this season.

Later that Sunday, the Tribe went up against CAA rival James Madison University and sent them home without a single point on the scoreboard, sweeping all the matches with a 7-0 final score.

The teams of O’Brien and Zuck, sophomore Kavi Sud and Ramadan and freshman Keziel Juneau and Wardell all took the wins in their doubles play, starting off the night with an early lead. In the singles play, not a single JMU opponent was allowed any more than four points per set, giving the College a decisive victory.

The upcoming matches for the Tribe will once again be hosted in Williamsburg at the McCormack-Nagelsen Tennis Center Saturday, when the College takes on Norfolk State University at 9 a.m. and Longwood University at 6 p.m.



JOSH TYLER • THE FLAT HAT
The men’s tennis team went 2-1 in this weekend’s three home matches.